

**HULMEVILLE MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**June 28, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Hulmeville Municipal Water Authority meeting was held on the above date via Zoom. This meeting was advertised in the Courier Times, and notice was posted at Borough Hall.

**Authority Member's Present**

Kurt Ludwig, President  
Patricia Taggart  
Mike Wasson

**Staff in Attendance**

Dorothy Omietanski, Borough Secretary  
Bob DeBias, Solicitor  
Pat Slater, Water and Sewer  
Sheri Wheeler, Water Meter Reader

**Authority Members Absent:** Joe Nocito

**Staff Absent:** Mike Whittaker, Licensed Water Operator

**Authority Members Late to Arrive:** Bert Wolf

**Guests in Attendance:** Bill Wheeler, Fire Marshal

**Call to Order:** Mr. Ludwig called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm; all those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken by Dorothy Omietanski

**Public Comment:** none

**Minutes:**

**Motion made by Mr. Wasson seconded by Ms. Taggart to approve the minutes of May 24, 2021; Motion passed with all in favor 3-0-0.**

**Water and Sewer Clerk:**

- Bills – The bills should go out this week.
- Printer – Ms. Slater's home printer is no longer working. She will be retiring next year and will no longer have access to printing at work. She would like to buy a new printer along with ink and paper. Ms. Slater has been looking at a few simple black and white printers that cost around \$200. Mr. DeBias suggested talking to Stanley Omietanski to see what he might recommend. Ms. Omietanski asked Ms. Slater to forward the printers she is considering and she will see if Stanley Omietanski can make a recommendation.

**Motion made by Mr. Ludwig and seconded by Mr. Wasson to approve a purchase by Ms. Slater for a printer, ink and paper for billing and Authority use at a cost not to exceed \$300; motion passed with all in favor 3-0-0.**

**Water Meter Reader:**

- Meter Replacement – no report
- Meter Readings – Ms. Wheeler completed the readings today.

**Bills:** Mr. Ludwig presented the following bill to be paid: Carroll Engineering \$486.35.

**Motion made by Ms. Taggart and seconded by Mr. Ludwig to pay the bill; motion passed with all in favor 3-0-0.**

Note Burt Wolfe arrived at 7:24pm

**Budget:**

- Review of Proposed Budget – Mr. Ludwig went through the proposed budget line by line. All staff receive a 5% increase in wages. Lab testing increased by \$500. Engineering was cut in half due to the fact that there are no major projects scheduled for the upcoming budget year. Water rent was increased by \$2,000 and sewer rent was lowered by \$65,000. I & I programs was reduced \$8,000 also due to no projects being scheduled. Mr. Harris, the treasurer would like to see the Plgit account brought back to at least \$300,000. Two years ago, the Authority needed to take money out of Plgit to cover the cost of unexpected increases in sewer rent. Mr. Ludwig budgeted \$5,000 per quarter to go back into Plget to replace the expenditures. Ms. Slater voiced her concern with lowering the sewer rent by so much without really knowing why it was so low this year. The reduction could be due to lack of rain or impact from work done on the system. Mr. DeBias did note that the Authority could increase rates any time during the year not just at budget time. Ms. Taggart also asked if the budget needed to have a zero balanced budget. Mr. Ludwig stated the Authority has never had a zero balanced budget. All members agreed the sewer rent should not be reduced by \$65,000. Everyone agreed to put the cost at \$140,000, which would make the final net balance \$6,950. Fire Marshal Wheeler asked if training should be zero in the budget. Mr. Ludwig stated that all training the Authority does to date has been free. He will check to make sure if Mike Whittaker needs any training or certifications. The meter replacement program has been ongoing now for three years and one third of the targeted meters have been replaced. The life expectancy of the new meters is ten years. Ms. Wheeler suggested Mr. Ludwig schedule a field trip to the sewer plant. The cost of sewer caps for the sewer cap replacement program is budgeted into I & I. Ms. Taggart suggested possibly talking to residents at the flea market in September about sew cap replacement. Mr. Ludwig would like to present the proposed budget to council at its July 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. If council approve the budget the Authority would vote to advertise the budget at the July meeting and vote to approve the budget at the August meeting after public comment.

**Motion made by Ms. Taggart and seconded by Mr. Wolfe to allow Mr. Ludwig to submit the modified proposed budget to council at its meeting on July 12, 2021; motion passed with all in favor 4-0-0.**

Mr. DeBias suggested Mr. Ludwig make the appropriate corrections to the budget and email it to Ms. Omietanski to forward to council prior to its meeting on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Correspondence:** none

**New Business:**

- In Person Meetings – The next Authority meeting on July 26, 2021 will be in person at Borough Hall. Ms. Omietanski informed the Authority she will be out of town for the next meeting.

**Old Business:**

- Lining Repairs – The two lining repairs on Trenton are still pending BCWSA securing their lining contract. BCWSA is having issues with renewing the current contract so they have decided to send it out for new bids. Steve Hartman from Carroll Engineering made Mr. Ludwig aware of the delay which in turn will delay the repairs needed at Trenton Rd. The lining repairs are not emergency, but high priority so Mr. Hartman believes the Authority has time to wait for the new contract. Mr. Hartman recommends that best action would be to wait for BCWSA to sign the new contract. BCWSA is then able to provide the full lining at the best price.

The work will most likely be delayed until fall but the work is not dependent on good weather and it can be completed at any time. All members agreed to wait for BCWSA to secure a new lining contract.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm; motion made by Mr. Wasson seconded by Ms. Taggart; carried 4-0-0.**

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Omietanski,  
Hulmeville Borough Secretary